strike which resulted in denial of patient care facilities etc. Certain representations from the Faculty representatives have been received concerning the non accessibility of the present Director, non utilization of Plan funds etc. These issues and the Director's action of criticizing the Government action through media were considered in the IB in its meeting held on 5th July, 2006, which formed an opinion to terminate the term of Office of Director as per the provisions of Regulation 31 of AIIMS Regulations, 1999. Even before the decision could be communicated, the Director, AIIMS, filed a writ petition before Delhi High Court. The High Court in its order dated 7-7-2006 restrained the Government from taking any decision on the recommendation of the Institute Body. The matter is currently *sub-judice.*

**Electronic waste**

†*91. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Environmentalists have expressed concern over the damage to the environment due to increasing electronic waste;

(b) whether Government have sought suggestions from environmentalists for resolving this problem;

(c) if so, the details there of; and

(d) whether Government are considering to enact a law to prevent the damage to the environment by E-waste?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Electronic waste, if not handled properly, may cause adverse impact on environment and health as it contains substances and chemicals, which are toxic in nature.

In a National Workshop on E-Waste Management held in 15th March 2004, which was participated by State Pollution Control Boards, NGOs, Industrial Associations and other experts in the field, recommendation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

was made to undertake a national level study for quantification, characterization and disposal practices being adopted in major cities of the country. Accordingly, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has undertaken a study on preparation of a "Guideline Document for Environmentally Sound Recyling of E-Waste" for the State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees of the Union Territories as well as the industries, through an expert agency having experience in this field.

(d) No, Sir. The provisions under the Hazardous Waste (Management and Handling) Rules 1989 as amended in 2000 and 2003 include E-waste. These rules regulate the generation, collection, storage, treatment, disposal, export and import of all hazardous wastes. The processes generating hazardous wastes are listed in Schedule 1 of these Rules. The residues and wastes generated from the operations in electronic industry are considered as hazardous wastes and are included at Sl.No. 31 of this Schedule. Further, as per the provisions of these Rules, Electrical and Electronic Assemblies are covered under category B 1110 of the Schedule 3 applicable for Import and Export of Hazardous Wastes, and the wastes under this category are only permitted for direct reuse and not for recycling or final disposal.

**Fixing MSP of cotton**

*92. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of cotton, is fixed in such a manner that the farmers are unable to get back even the production cost of their crops and are compelled to commit suicide due to debt;

(b) if so, the justification thereof;

(c) the number of farmers' representatives and their percentage against the total number of members in the Committee which fixes the MSP;

(d) the steps taken by Government for taking farmers into confidence while fixing MSP; and

(e) the achievement made by Government therefrom?